

## **Claim Amendment Summary**

### **Claims pending**

- At the time of Action: Claims 1, 3-8, 10-16, and 18-23.
- After this Response: Claims 1, 3-8, 10-16, and 18-23.

**Canceled or Withdrawn claims:** Claims 2, 9 and 17.

**Amended claims:** 10 and 21.

**New claims:** none.

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### **Claims:**

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable modules comprising:

a file locator configured to locate an executable image on a computer media;

a file-format recognizer configured to recognize the file format of the executable image from amongst a database of multiple file format definitions, wherein the database is extensible so that additional file format definitions may be added to the database of multiple file format definitions;

a memory-mapper configured to open the executable image from the computer media and read it into a computer memory;

an importer configured to find a list of executable image names to load;

an exporter configured to build a representation of program modules that an executable image exports;

a binder configured to link multiple executable images together, such images being those of the list of executable image names.

**2. (CANCELED)**

**3. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the importer is further configured to direct the loading of multiple executable images of the list of executable image names to load

**4. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the file-format recognizer is further configured to select one or more of a group of available pluggable sub-loaders is capable of loading the recognized file format of the executable image.

**5. (ORIGINAL)** A loader comprising a computer-readable medium as recited in claim 1.

**6. (ORIGINAL)** An operating system comprising a computer-readable medium as recited in claim 1.

**7. (ORIGINAL)** A computer comprising a computer-readable medium as recited in claim 1.

**8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable modules comprising:

a searcher configured to search a computer media for an executable image for loading;

a format recognizer configured to the format of the executable image;

a memory-mapper configured to load and map the executable image into memory based upon the format of the executable image;

a sub-loader configured to examine a data structure of the executable image to determine whether to load additional images;

a database of multiple executable-image formats which is the basis for which the recognizer recognizes the format of executable image and for which the memory-mapper varies how it loads and maps the executable image into memory, wherein the database is extensible so that additional executable-image formats may be recognized by the recognizer and loaded and mapped by the memory-mapper.

**9. (CANCELED)**

**10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein one or more modules of the medium are configured to be replaced with a replacement module without recompilation of one or more modules.

11. (ORIGINAL) A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the memory-mapper is further configured to convert the executable image before mapping it into the memory.

12. (ORIGINAL) A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the memory-mapper is further configured to decrypt the executable image before mapping it into the memory.

13. (ORIGINAL) A loader comprising a computer-readable medium as recited in claim 8.

14. (ORIGINAL) An operating system comprising a computer-readable medium as recited in claim 8.

15. (ORIGINAL) A computer comprising a computer-readable medium as recited in claim 8.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for facilitating loading to one or more executable images of varying formats, the method comprising:

locating an executable image on a computer media;

investigating information related to the executable image, thereby identifying the format of the executable image, wherein during the investigating, an extensible database of executable-image formats is accessed;

based upon the identified format of the image, initiating a loader associated with that identified format;

with that loader, loading the executable image into a computer memory.

**17. (CANCELED)**

**18. (ORIGINAL)** A method as recited in claim 16, wherein headers of the image contains the information related to the executable image for the investigating.

**19. (ORIGINAL)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in claim 16.

**20. (ORIGINAL)** A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 16.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium having modularized computer-executable modularized sets of instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform a method comprising:

load loading one or more executable images into a computer memory, such an image having one or more formats defined by an extensible database of executable-image formats;

executing the one or more executable images that are loaded into the computer memory.

22. (ORIGINAL) A medium as recited in claim 21, wherein the modularized sets of instructions are isolated with clean interfaces.

23. (ORIGINAL) An operating system comprising a medium as recited in claim 21.